

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF WEST VIRGINIA**

**CHARLESTON DIVISION**

BRADLEY COTTRELL,  
on behalf of the Estate of,  
BERNARD DALE COTTRELL,

Plaintiffs,

v.

CIVIL ACTION NO. 2:18-cv-01281

NATHAN SCOTT STEPP,  
Individually as a member of the  
West Virginia State Police, et al.,

Defendants.

**SCHEDULING ORDER**

The Court has reviewed the parties' Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(f) report. The Scheduling Conference previously scheduled for December 3, 2018, is **CANCELED**.

Pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 16(b) and Local Rule of Civil Procedure 16.1(e), it is accordingly **ORDERED** that this case shall proceed as follows:

1. **Amendments and Joinder**: The amendment of any pleading and the joinder of any party shall be completed no later than **February 4, 2019**.

2. **Discovery**: The parties shall serve all discovery requests by **July 5, 2019**, and complete all depositions by **August 19, 2019**. The last date to complete depositions shall be the "discovery completion date" by which all discovery, including disclosures required by Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(a)(1), (2), and (b)(5), but not disclosures required by Federal Rule of

Civil Procedure 26(a)(3), shall be completed. Pursuant to Local Rule 26.1(c), the Court adopts and approves the agreements of the parties with respect to limitations on discovery (numbers of interrogatories, requests for admissions, and depositions).

3. **Expert Witnesses:** The party bearing the burden of proof on an issue shall make the disclosures of information required by Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(a)(2)(A) and (B) for that issue to all other parties or their counsel no later than **May 17, 2019**. The party not bearing the burden of proof on an issue shall make the disclosures required by Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(a)(2)(A) and (B) for that issue to all other parties or their counsel no later than **June 14, 2019**. All parties shall provide the disclosures required by Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(a)(2)(A) and (B) if the evidence is intended solely to contradict or rebut evidence on the same issue identified by another party under Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(a)(2)(B), no later than **June 28, 2019**.

4. **Summary Judgment and Other Dispositive Motions:** All dispositive motions, except those under Rule 12(b), together with depositions, admissions, documents, affidavits, or other such matter in support thereof, shall be filed and served by **September 9, 2019**, with responses due by **September 23, 2019**, and replies due by **September 30, 2019**. Any motion must be supported by a memorandum of law at the time filed or submitted. If any motion, memorandum in support, response, or reply, inclusive of all attachments, exceeds fifty (50) pages in length, a hard copy of such materials shall be submitted to the presiding District Judge at the time of filing.

5. **Settlement Meeting:** No later than **November 11, 2019**, the parties and their lead trial counsel shall meet and conduct negotiations looking toward the settlement of the action, and counsel will be prepared at the pretrial conference to certify that they have done so. Counsel for

the plaintiffs shall take the initiative in scheduling the settlement meeting, and all other counsel shall cooperate to effect such negotiations. Any mediation scheduled by the parties must be concluded no later than the settlement meeting date. If the action is not settled during the settlement meeting or mediation session, and if there is no order or stipulation to the contrary, counsel and unrepresented parties shall make all Rule 26(a)(3) disclosures at the conclusion of the meeting or session.

6. **Motions in Limine:** All motions in limine shall be filed and served by **November 18, 2019**, with responses due by **November 25, 2019**.

7. **Proposed Integrated Pretrial Order:** The plaintiff portion of the proposed integrated pretrial order shall be submitted to opposing counsel by **November 13, 2019**, who shall then prepare and complete the opposing portion thereof and submit the proposed integrated pretrial order, signed by all counsel, to the Court for entry no later than **November 20, 2019**. The proposed integrated pretrial order, signed by all counsel and unrepresented parties, shall set forth the matters listed in Local Rule of Civil Procedure 16.7(b).

8. **Pretrial Conference:** A pretrial conference shall be held at **2:00 p.m. on December 2, 2019**, at which lead trial counsel shall appear fully prepared to discuss all aspects of the case. Individuals with full authority to settle the case for each party shall be present in person or immediately available by telephone.

9. **Proposed Charges to the Jury:** The original and one copy of proposed jury instructions, numbered and in charge form, on substantive theories of recovery or defense, on damages and on evidentiary matters peculiar to the case, and special interrogatories, if any be appropriate to the case, requested by counsel for submission to the jury, together with a verdict

form, shall be exchanged by counsel and submitted to the presiding District Judge by **December 3, 2019**. On that same date, the proposed jury instructions and verdict form shall also be submitted to the presiding District Judge on compact disc saved in Word compatible format or emailed to chambers according to instructions provided by the Court's law clerk.

10. **Final Settlement Conference:** A final settlement conference, attended by all unrepresented parties and by lead trial counsel for each represented party, shall be held at **2:00 p.m. on December 2, 2019**, or as earlier directed by the Court. Individuals with full authority to settle the case for each party shall be present in person or immediately available by telephone.

11. **Trial:** Trial of this action shall be held at **9:00 a.m. on December 10, 2019**, before the undersigned. Trial will commence upon completion of jury selection in any other case scheduled for this date. This case is presently the third case on the trial docket for that week.

12. **Failure to Appear or Negotiate:** Should lead trial counsel fail to appear at any pre-trial conference or otherwise fail to meet and confer in good faith with opposing counsel as required in paragraph 5 above, or should a party or his authorized representative fail to appear or be available at any conference or otherwise fail to meet and confer in good faith as required in paragraph 5 above, appropriate sanctions may be imposed, including, but not limited to, sanctions by way of imposition of attorney fees against the attorney and/or his client pursuant to Fed R Civ P Rule 16(f).

All proceedings shall be held by the Court at the Robert C. Byrd United States Courthouse, 300 Virginia Street, East, Charleston West Virginia.

The dates listed above are summarized in the following table:

Deadline	Date
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Amending the pleadings or joining parties	02/04/2019
Last date to serve discovery requests	07/05/2019
Opening Rule 26 expert disclosures	05/17/2019
Responsive Rule 26 expert disclosures	06/14/2019
Rebuttal Rule 26 expert disclosure	06/28/2019
Discovery to close	08/19/2019
Dispositive motions deadline	09/09/2019
Response to dispositive motion	09/23/2019
Reply to response to dispositive motion	09/30/2019
Settlement meeting	11/11/2019
Motion in limine deadline	11/18/2019
Responses for motions in limine	11/25/2019
Proposed pretrial order to defendant	11/13/2019
Integrated pretrial order	11/20/2019
Pretrial conference	12/02/2019 2:00 PM
Proposed jury charge	12/03/2019
Final settlement conference	12/02/2019 2:00 PM
Trial	12/10/2019 9:00 AM

**IT IS SO ORDERED.**

The Court **DIRECTS** the Clerk to send a copy of this Order to counsel of record and any unrepresented party.

ENTER: November 28, 2018



THOMAS E. JOHNSTON, CHIEF JUDGE